

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re: Application of: Martin DAFERNER, et al.  
Serial No.: To Be Assigned  
Filed: Herewith as national phase of International Patent  
Application PCT/EP2003/010510, filed September 20,  
2003  
For: **METHOD FOR DETERMINATION OF A LEAD  
TIME**

Mail Stop: PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 28, 2005

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant hereby makes of record the documents listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 Form (1 page) for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. While the references are being submitted herewith, some or all of the references may not constitute prior art under the U.S. patent laws.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b), before the mailing date of a First Office Action. Therefore, no fee is believed due.

In the event any additional fee is due in connection with this response or if any fee has been overpaid, the deficiency or overpayment should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the accompanying PTO-1449 form be considered and made of record. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable over all of the references made of record at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

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By   
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FORM PTO-1449  
(REV. 7-80)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
710.1019

10/533050  
APPLICATION NO.  
To be assigned

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

Martin DAFERNER, et al.

FILING DATE  
Herewith

GROUP  
To be assigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A01	US 5,946,662	Aug. 31, 1999	Ettl, et al.	705	8	
	A02	US 5,231,567	Jul. 27, 1993	Matoba et al.	364	401	
	A03	US 5,819,232	Oct. 6, 1998	Shipman	705	8	
	A04						
	A05						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A06	GB 2 370 135	Jun. 19, 2002	GB -- Great Britain			In English	
	A07	JP 11-175636	Jul. 2, 1999	JP -- Japan			Computer translation attached	
	A08	JP 2000-172768	Jun. 23, 2000	JP - Japan			Computer translation attached	
	A09	JP 08-096037	Apr. 12, 1996	JP - Japan			Computer translation attached	
	A10	JP 08-287149	Nov. 1, 1996	JP - Japan			Computer translation attached	
	A11							
	A12							
	A13							
	A14							
	A15							
	A16							

**OTHER REFERENCES** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	A17	H. Lee et al., Der Peitscheneffekt in der Absatzkette, Harvard Business Manager Nr. 4 (1997)
		- See specification
	A18	
	A19	
	A20	

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.